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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.	
09/898,341	07/03/2001	David A. Jones	659/866	2473	
7.	7590 01/19/2006			EXAMINER	
Gleln P. Belvis			HUG, ERIC J		
BRINKS HOFER GILSON & LIONE P.O. BOX 10395			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER	
CHICAGO, IL 60610			1731		

DATE MAILED: 01/19/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

	Application No.	Applicant(s)			
	09/898,341	JONES ET AL.			
Office Action Summary	Examiner	Art Unit			
	Eric Hug	1731			
The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address Period for Reply					
A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION. - Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication. - If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication. - Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).					
Status					
 Responsive to communication(s) filed on <u>02 December 2003 and 17 February 2005</u>. This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final. Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under Ex parte Quayle, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213. 					
Disposition of Claims					
4) Claim(s) 1-22 is/are pending in the application. 4a) Of the above claim(s) is/are withdrawn from consideration. 5) Claim(s) 9-16 is/are allowed. 6) Claim(s) 1-8 and 17-22 is/are rejected. 7) Claim(s) is/are objected to. 8) Claim(s) are subject to restriction and/or election requirement. Application Papers 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner. 10) The drawing(s) filed on is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner. Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a). Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d). 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.					
Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119					
12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f). a) All b) Some * c) None of: 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received. 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)). * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.					
Attachment(s) 1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date	4) Interview Summary Paper No(s)/Mail D 5) Notice of Informal F 6) Other:				

Application/Control Number: 09/898,341 Page 2

Art Unit: 1731

DETAILED ACTION

In view of the Remand to the Examiner dated August 25, 2005, the Appeal Brief filed on

December 2, 2003, and the Reply Brief filed on February 17, 2005, PROSECUTION IS

HEREBY REOPENED. New grounds of rejection are set forth below.

To avoid abandonment of the application, appellant must exercise one of the following

two options:

(1) file a reply under 37 CFR 1.111 (if this Office action is non-final) or a reply under 37

CFR 1.113 (if this Office action is final); or,

(2) initiate a new appeal by filing a notice of appeal under 37 CFR 41.31 followed by an

appeal brief under 37 CFR 41.37. The previously paid notice of appeal fee and appeal brief fee

can be applied to the new appeal. If, however, the appeal fees set forth in 37 CFR 41.20 have

been increased since they were previously paid, then appellant must pay the difference between

the increased fees and the amount previously paid.

A Supervisory Patent Examiner (SPE) has approved of reopening prosecution by signing

below:

TECHNOLOGY CENTER 1700

Page 3

Art Unit: 1731

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments, see Appeal Brief and Reply Brief, with respect to the applied prior art have been fully considered and are persuasive. It is recognized in particular that if any of the applied references disclose the existence of a surface active agent with a ketene dimer, then the disclosed surface active agent is part of the formulation for making the ketene dimer sizing agent. Applicant has already clarified that a ketene dimer sizing agent is comprised of a ketene dimer and a surface active agent. Thus, the surface active agent used in making a ketene dimer sizing agent is not the claimed surface active agent.

No surface active agents other than those used in the making of the ketene dimer sizing agent have been identified. Therefore, all rejections under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) and 103(a) set forth previously have been withdrawn. The rejection of claims under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, and the rejection under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting have also been withdrawn.

Application/Control Number: 09/898,341

Art Unit: 1731

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.

1. Claims 1-5, 7, 8, 17, 18, and 20-22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Ampulski et al (US 5,246,545).

Ampulski discloses processes for making soft, absorbent tissue paper. The tissue is made from furnishes comprising softwood (long fibers) and hardwood (short fibers). Additives are selected from the groups of strength additives, absorbency additives, and softener additives, and mixtures thereof. Softener additives are given at column 17, lines 1-53. Included among the softener additives are numerous surfactants (surface active agents). Absorbency additives are given in column 19, line 35 to column 20, line 12. Absorbency additives are used to enhance or decrease the rate of absorbency of the tissue. Among the absorbency additives are alkyl ketene dimers, which are used to decrease the rate of absorbency. It is clearly disclosed in Ampulski that an absorbency additive can be used with a softener additive. Thus, Ampulski teaches a soft, absorbent tissue having a surface active agent and a ketene dimer sizing agent.

The tissue is prepared preferably to have an absorbency rate of less than 10 seconds (column 21, line 10). Up to 2.0% of absorbency additives can be used. Example 1 illustrates a multi-layered tissue comprised of three layers, including at least one layer of predominately short papermaking fibers and a layer of predominately long papermaking fibers. The multi-layered tissue is made on a Fourdrinier with multi-chambered headbox. An aqueous slurry of the fibers not containing the additives is delivered onto a forming wire from which water is removed. The additives are applied onto the web following drying and creping.

Application/Control Number: 09/898,341

Art Unit: 1731

2. Claims 1, 4-8, 17, 18, 20, and 21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Trokhan et al (US 5,840,403).

Page 5

Like Ampulski discussed above, Trokhan discloses processes for making soft, absorbent tissue paper. The tissue is made from furnishes comprising softwood (long fibers) and hardwood (short fibers) (see column 6, lines 16-28 and 46-64). Additives are selected from the groups of strength additives, absorbency additives, and softener additives, and mixtures thereof. Softener additives are given at column 11, lines 59 to column 14, line 55. Included among the softener additives are numerous surfactants (surface active agents). Absorbency additives are given in column 14, line 56 to column 15, line 63. Absorbency additives are used to enhance or decrease the rate of absorbency of the tissue. Among the absorbency additives are alkyl ketene dimers (column 15, line 26), which are used to decrease the rate of absorbency. It is clearly disclosed in Trokhan that an absorbency additive can be used with a softener additive. See also column 12, liens 43-47, which suggests simultaneous addition of different types of additives. Thus, Trokhan teaches a soft, absorbent tissue having a surface active agent and a ketene dimer sizing agent. The tissue may be creped or throughdried (column 6, lines 30-46). The tissue is prepared preferably to have an absorbency rate of less than 10 seconds (column 16, line 43). Example 1 illustrates a multi-layered tissue comprised of three layers, including at least one layer of predominately short papermaking fibers and a layer of predominately long papermaking fibers. The multi-layered tissue is made on a Fourdrinier with multi-chambered headbox. An aqueous slurry of the fibers not containing the additives is delivered onto a forming wire from which water is removed. The additives are applied onto the web following drying and/or creping.

Art Unit: 1731

3. Claims 1, 18, 19, and 21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Cabell et al (US 5,908,707).

Cabell discloses processes for making wet cleaning wipes comprising a paper carrier web that controls absorbency and a high internal phase emulsion applied to the carrier. The carrier is essentially a tissue web. The carrier layer is made from furnishes comprising softwood (long fibers) and hardwood (short fibers). A sizing agent is added to carrier web to decrease the rate of absorbency. See column 11, lines 11-39. Note the use of ketene dimer sizing agents. The sizing agent is added internally at the wet end of the papermaking process. The high internal phase emulsion comprises an external lipid phase and an internal polar phase with a surfactant. See column 15, line 25 to column 18, line 54 for surfactants. Thus, Cabell teaches a soft, absorbent tissue having a surface active agent (surfactant) and a ketene dimer sizing agent. The tissue is made on a Fourdrinier wherein an aqueous slurry of the fibers containing the sizing agent is delivered onto a forming wire from which water is removed.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claim 9-16 are allowed.

The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter:

The claims are allowable for providing that the wetability of the sheet is equivalent to a sheet of the same composition but without sizing. This is not taught or suggested by the applied references above, as both teach using sizing agents in a manner to decrease absorbency.

Page 7

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Eric Hug whose telephone number is 571 272-1192. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday, 10:00 AM to 6:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Steven Griffin can be reached on 571 272-1189. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

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